

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 KABUL 06888 201422Z

43

ACTION NEA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 INR-05 CIAE-00

SP-02 PM-03 DODE-00 OMB-01 SAM-01 SAB-01 OES-02 IO-03

/044 W

----- 050840

R 201057Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4729

INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L KABUL 6888

LIMDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AF

SUBJECT: AFGHANISTAN'S RELATIONS WITH ITS NEIGHBORS

1. SUMMARY: DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY DUBS, ACCOMPANIED BY AMBASSADOR, OCTOBER 19 REVIEWED WITH DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER ABDULLAH OUR TWO COUNTRIES' RELATIONS WITH THE COUNTRIES OF THIS REGION. ABDULLAH SAID NOTHING ESSENTIALLY NEW, BUT REITERATED THE AFGHAN POSITION THAT THE NEXT MOVE IN THE PAK-AFGHAN DISPUTE IS PAKISTAN'S. HE ALSO SAID THAT THE RECENT INTERNAL CHANGES IN AFGHANISTAN ARE AIMED AT STRENGTHENING HIS NATION'S INDEPENDENT STANCE. END SUMMARY.

2. DUBS HAD AN HOUR-LONG TALK WITH ABDULLAH, WHO IS AFGHANISTAN'S DE FACTO FOREIGN MINISTER. DUBS REVIEWED THE RECENT CHAVAN AND AZIZ AHMED VISITS TO WASHINGTON AND STRESSED OUR DESIRE TO SEE THE COUNTRIES OF THE REGION WORK TO SOLVE THEIR PROBLEMS WITH ONE ANOTHER AND TO DEVELOP THEIR ECONOMIES AND TACKLE WITH US SOME OF THE MAJOR GLOBAL PROBLEMS SUCH AS ENERGY, FOOD AND POPULATION. HE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 KABUL 06888 201422Z

MENTIONED THAT HE HAD ALREADY VISITED PAKISTAN AND WOULD

BE VISITING THE OTHER COUNTRIES OF THE REGION IN THE NEXT COUPLE OF WEEKS.

3. REGARDING BANGLADESH, ABDULLAH SAID THAT AFGHANISTAN IS CONCERNED ABOUT ITS INTERNAL STABILITY. HE SAID THAT WHILE AFGHANS HAD BEEN AWARE OF MANY OF THE NEGATIVE FEATURES OF MUJIB'S REGIME, SUCH AS GROWING CORRUPTION, MUJIB HAD BEEN REGARDED WITH GREAT RESPECT. SO FAR HE HAD HAD OCCASION ONLY TO OFFER GOODWILL AND SYMPATHY TO THE NEW GOVERNMENT WHEN HE SAW THE BENGALI FOREIGN MINISTER IN NEW YORK.

4. ABDULLAH SAID THAT INDO-AFGHAN RELATIONS ARE WARM AND CLOSE. HE SAID THAT INDIA'S LEADERS ARE WISE AND HAVE A GLOBAL OUTLOOK AND THEREFORE ARE NOT INTERESTED IN FURTHER CONFLICT IN THE REGION, AND ARE SPECIFICALLY NOT INTERESTED IN THE DISINTEGRATION OF PAKISTAN. INDIAN FOREIGN MINISTER CHAVAN WILL BE ARRIVING IN KABUL ON OCTOBER 26 FOR A VISIT.

5. IN RESPONSE TO DUBS' QUESTION AS TO THE NEXT POSSIBLE STEPS IN THE PAK-AFGHAN IMBROGLIO, ABDULLAH SAID THAT AFGHANISTAN HAD MADE MANY CONCESSIONS, MOST RECENTLY THE MILD TONE OF HIS UNGA SPEECH, AND THAT THE TIME HAD COME FOR A CONCILIATORY MOVE ON THE PART OF THE PAKISTANIS. HE REPEATED WHAT HE HAS SAID SEVERAL TIMES BEFORE THAT AFGHANISTAN DESIRES NO PAK TERRITORY AND DOES NOT FAVOR THE DISINTEGRATION OF PAKISTAN. COMMENT: ABDULLAH NO DOUBT CONSIDERS THAT THE AFGHANS MADE A MAJOR CONCESSION WHEN THEY STOPPED TALKING ABOUT SELF-DETERMINATION FOR THE PUSHTUNS AND BALUCHIS. WE DID NOT ASK HIM ABOUT THE RECENT AFGHAN APPROACH TO SECRETARY GENERAL WALDHEIM (ISLAMABAD 9460) WHICH APPEARS TO RETURN TO THE OLDER, HARSHER AFGHAN POSITION. OF POSSIBLE INTEREST IS A REMARK MADE TO DUBS AND THE AMBASSADOR ON OCTOBER 17 BY A WELL-INFORMED FORMER HIGH-RANKING AFGHAN DIPLOMAT THAT SOME PROGRESS MIGHT BE POSSIBLE IN THE PAK-AFGHAN RELATIONSHIP IF BHUTTO COULD MAKE A GESTURE TO WALI KHAN, THE IMPRISONED NAP LEADER, SUCH AS PLACING HIM UNDER COMFORT-ABLE HOUSE ARREST, WHATEVER THE SUPREME COURT DECISION IN THE NAP CASE. END COMMENT.
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 KABUL 06888 201422Z

6. DUBS ASKED ABOUT THE STATUS OF THE PAK-AFGHAN AGREEMENT TO BAN AD HOMINEM PROPAGANDA AND GOT A RATHER FUZZY ANSWER WHICH SEEMED TO IMPLY THAT ABDULLAH KNOWS THAT THE AFGHANS AS WELL AS THE PAKS HAVE RECENTLY STRAYED OVER THE LINE.

7. ABDULLAH ALSO SPOKE, AS HE PUT IT, PESSIMISTICALLY ABOUT THE INTERNAL SITUATION IN PAKISTAN. HE SAID THAT

THE ECONOMIC PICTURE WAS NOT BRIGHT AND THAT BHUTTO'S OPPOSITION IS STRENGTHENING, PARTICULARLY AS KHAR IS A RESOURCEFUL POLITICIAN.

8. DUBS TOOK THE OCCASION TO REVIEW OUR ARMS POLICY, STRESSING OUR ADHERENCE TO THE GUIDELINES WHICH WERE ANNOUNCED LAST WINTER. THE ONLY SPECIFIC HE MENTIONED IS THAT WE WILL BE SELLING A LIMITED NUMBER OF TOW MISSILES, WHICH HE DESCRIBED AS DEFENSIVE, TO PAKISTAN. ABDULLAH MADE NO COMMENT.

9. ABDULLAH VOLUNTEERED THAT AFGHANISTAN ATTACHES GREAT IMPORTANCE TO ITS RELATIONS WITH IRAN AND COUNTS ON MAJOR IRANIAN ASSISTANCE TO THE AFGHAN DEVELOPMENT EFFORT.

10. DUBS ASKED ABOUT THE MEANING OF THE RECENT CABINET AND OTHER CHANGES IN AFGHANISTAN. ABDULLAH SAID THAT THEY WERE PROMPTED BY A DESIRE TO STRENGTHEN THE NATIONALIST FORCES IN AFGHANISTAN AND TO MAKE CERTAIN THAT PERSONS INFLUENCED FROM FOREIGN COUNTRIES DID NOT PLAY A ROLE IN THE GOVERNMENT. HE ALSO SPOKE HIGHLY OF THE TECHNICAL COMPETENCE OF THE NEW MINISTERS. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH HE WAS NOT EXPLICIT, HIS REFERENCE TO FOREIGN INFLUENCE CAN ONLY HAVE MEANT SOVIET INFLUENCE.
ELIOT

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975KABUL06888
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750363-0889
From: KABUL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751038/aaaabhra.tel
Line Count: 141
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29 JUL 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <24 NOV 2003 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AFGHANISTAN'S RELATIONS WITH ITS NEIGHBORS
TAGS: PFOR, AF, BG, PK, IN, (DUBS, ADOLPH), (ABDULLAH)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006